

## CLAIMS

1. Pharmaceutical composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of a small or medium size peptide or of a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof in aqueous solution, wherein it is free from preservatives.
- 5 2. Pharmaceutical composition consisting of a therapeutically effective amount of a small or medium size peptide or of a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof in aqueous solution.
3. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein it is free from adsorption inhibitors.
- 10 4. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, wherein it is free from degradation inhibitors.
5. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the small or medium size peptide is cyclic.
6. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, wherein the small or medium size peptide is cyclic.
- 15 7. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein the small or medium size cyclic peptide contains one or more sulfur atoms within the cyclus.
8. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7, wherein the small or medium size cyclic peptide contains at least two sulfur atoms within the cyclus.
- 20 9. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of derivatives and analogues of oxytocin and vasopressin, and the salts thereof.
- 10.Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of the analogues of vasopressin, and the salts thereof.
- 25 11.Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10, wherein the analogue of vasopressin contains a mercaptopropionyl radical.
- 12.Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein the analogue of vasopressin is desmopressin acetate hydrate.
- 30 13.Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, having a pH comprised between 3.5 and 6.
- 14.Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, containing a buffer selected

from the group consisting of citric acid/disodium phosphate dihydrate and citric acid/trisodium citrate dihydrate.

15. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, further containing a buffer selected from the group consisting of citric acid/disodium phosphate dihydrate and  
5 citric acid/trisodium citrate dihydrate.

16. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, containing an agent for controlling the osmolarity.

17. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, further containing an agent for controlling the osmolarity.

10 18. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16, wherein the agent for controlling the osmolarity is sodium chloride.

19. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, containing at least 0.02 mg of desmopressin, at least 3 mg of a buffer, an amount of an agent for controlling the osmolarity such that the osmolarity is kept at the physiologic values of the  
15 human plasma, and 1 ml of purified water.

20. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, containing at least 0.02 mg of desmopressin, and further containing at least 3 mg of a buffer, an amount of an agent for controlling the osmolarity such that the osmolarity is kept at the physiologic values of the human plasma, in 1 ml of purified water.

20 21. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, containing from 3 to 6 mg of citric acid/disodium phosphate dihydrate buffer, or from 5 to 11 mg of citric acid/trisodium citrate dihydrate buffer.

22. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, containing from 0.02 to 0.15 mg of desmopressin, from 1 to 2.5 mg of citric acid monohydrate, from 2 to 5  
25 mg of disodium phosphate dihydrate, 1 ml of water and an amount of sodium chloride such that the osmolarity is kept at the physiologic values of the human plasma.

23. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 22, containing 0.1 mg of desmopressin, 1.7 mg of citric acid monohydrate, 3 mg of disodium phosphate  
30 dihydrate, 1 ml of water and an amount of sodium chloride such that the osmolarity is kept at the physiologic values of the human plasma.

24. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, containing 0.1 mg of

desmopressin, and further containing 1.7 mg of citric acid monohydrate, 3 mg of disodium phosphate dihydrate, in 1 ml of water and an amount of sodium chloride such that the osmolality is kept at the physiologic values of the human plasma.

25. Process for preparing the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1,  
5 comprising operating in pre-sterile environment, sterilely filtrating through 0,22  $\mu\text{m}$  filters, collecting the filtrate in sterile environment and distributing it in sterile vials.

26. Process for preparing the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, operating in pre-sterile environment, sterilely filtrating through 0,22  $\mu\text{m}$  filters, collecting the filtrate in sterile environment and distributing it in sterile vials.

10 27. Spray unit containing a composition according to claim 1, and equipped with a multidose pump, absolute filter for the aspiration air, and an auto-blocking mechanism of the actuator.

28. Spray unit containing a composition according to claim 2, and equipped with a multidose pump, absolute filter for the aspiration air, and an auto-blocking  
15 mechanism of the actuator.

29. Spray unit according to claim 27, wherein the vial is of glass.

30. Spray unit according to claim 27, wherein the vial is of plastic.